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A New *Ambrysus* from Mexico (Hemiptera, Naucoridae)

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Subfamily AMBRYSINAE Usinger, 1941
Genus *Ambrysus* Stål, 1862

Ambrysus drakei, sp. nov.

General appearance: A rather large, robust species with the mottled coloration typical of *Ambrysi*. Size 12.0-13.0 mm. long and 7.5-9.0 mm. wide. Dorsum lighter over prothorax and head, where the background color is light yellowish, darker brownish over hemelytra; embolia the only prominently light area in the otherwise dark hemelytra; scutellum with a faint reddish caste. Venter light yellow, slightly darker on abdomen, legs whitish-yellow.

Head: Sparsely punctate, shiny, comparatively flat; vertex only very faintly protuberant before eyes, forming an almost smooth, nearly flat contour between leading angles of the eye. Eyes essentially flush with general head surface; outer and posterior eye margins not forming a smooth, uninterrupted semicircle, but showing a slight angulation at their meeting points, which is the anterior inception of the thin but prominent border of the posterior eye margin. Labrum smoothly rounded, but its outline, rather than being an even semicircle, suggests a pointing of the tip; ratio of length-to-width 23:40 (58%), uniform in color; mouthparts similar to head in color, darkening toward tip. Head ratios are:

- (1) total length to width (including eyes) 43::68 (63%)
- (2) anterior distance between eyes to posterior distance 32::40 (80%)
- (3) anterior distance between eyes to inner eye length 31::28 (90%)
- (4) posterior distance between eyes to greatest length of head posterior to this line 40::10 (25%)

Pronotum: Moderately punctate, shiny; background color light yellowish, bearing five prominent brownish areas within the disc, composed of aggregations of brown spots in the manner typical of *Ambrysi* in general; posterior border rather broad, separated from disc by thin black line; lateral edges smooth, non-pilose, weakly curved, curvature more pronounced at hind angle (postero-lateral angle)—per cent of curvature (viewed perpendicular to the frontal plane of section of the animal as a unit) about 12% (av. 68::8); venter light yellowish, prominently pilose along posterior edge, particularly centrally, about the keel and the procoxal cavities; keel ridged anteriorly, flatly sloping posteriorly beneath median union of propleura, the slope smooth except for suggestion of transverse rugulosity—ratio of anterior keel ridge to total keel length (including posterior sloping face) 45::70 (64%). Prosternum free from propleura, and disappearing caudad beneath the latter. Propleura united along median line just posterior to prosternum. Pronotal ratios are:

- (1) width between anterior angles to width between posterior angles 68::135 (50%)
- (2) median length to greatest width 44::135 (33%)
- (3) distance between anterior and posterior angles on same side to perpendicular distance between anterior angle and baseline of pronotum 65::62

Scutellum: A pale reddish brown with light yellow area at posterior angle and some lightening in color laterally; ratio of three sides, anterior and two laterals, 90::68::68.

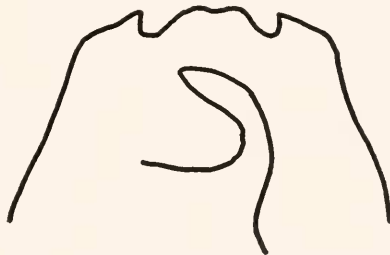
Hemelytra: Background color nearly unicolorous brown-black, with some light yellowing, most prominently on embolia; rather shiny, punctate, each puncture with a whitish spot; embolium well defined at its posterior edge, rather broad for the genus (length-to-width 75:28 = 37%); emboliar crease very weak, barely noticeable in anterior one-fifth—embolium typically bi-colored, light yellow in anterior two-thirds, reddish brown posteriorly with rather pronounced contrast between the two areas. Hemelytra rather markedly exposing lateral connexival spinose margins posterior to embolia, and attaining abdominal tip. Wings functional, as long as hemelytra, and possessing the usual large, "costal" cell.

Venter: The prothoracic venter has been discussed above. All connexival segments moderately spinose except Segment I, the angles being acutely prolonged posteriorly; Segment I angle is right-angulate, not protruding laterad of general body outline, and is non-spinose. Connexival Angles II-IV are the most prominent, becoming progressively larger anterior-to-posterior; lateral connexival edges essentially smooth, non-serrate, even with considerable magnification. Tip of female subgenital plate quadrisinuate in terminal outline, the two inner sinuosities grouped together as two low, rounded angles, the two outer sinuosities sharp-angulate and not reaching as far caudad as the median portion. Actually, this tip outline is a combination of the characteristics of *A. mexicanus* (*A. dilatus*, *A. hintoni*) and *A. fuscus*; the situation is indistinguishable from that of *A. fuscus*, and the left lateral asymmetry of *A. mexicanus* may be quite evident (see illustration). The male genital process is prominently developed, and greatly resembles that of a small *A. guttatipennis* or a large *A. mexicanus* (see illustration).

Legs: Prolegs—coxa and trochanter usual for the genus. Femoral incrustation about average, ratio of length to greatest median width 60:36 (60%); tibia average, combined tibiotarsus, when closed, just attaining adjacent (proximal) end of femur.

Mesolegs—coxa and trochanter usual; femoral ratio of length to greatest median width 60:11 (18%)—length 2.6 mm.; tibia

with usual spination for the subgenus *Ambrysus*—distal end ventrally with two prominent transverse rows of spines set across tibial width, the terminal row set solidly across apex, the secondary or proximal row extending only about half way across tibial width—ratio of length to median width 55:8 (15%)—length 2.5 mm.; tarsus long, narrow, whitish, 3-segmented, the first segment very small and usually hidden by terminal spines, third segment terminating in two prominent, moderately curved claws.



DRAKEI

Ambrysus drakei, holotype female and allotype. The enclosing, top outline represents the terminal configuration of the female subgenital plate as seen in ventral view with caudum at top; the slender, left-pointing structure below this outline is the male genital process.

Metalegs—coxa and trochanter usual; femoral ratio of length to median width 82:12 (15%)—length 4.0 mm.; tibia essentially an enlargement of mesotibia, although comparatively more elongate—ratio of length to median ventral width 93:9 (10%)—length 4.6 mm.; tarsus an enlargement of mesotarsus, and more conspicuously armed beneath with large, sparse bristles.

Distribution: See types.

Type locality data: MEXICO—Durango (*Durango*, 6(viii)50, C. J. Drake & F. C. Hottes).

Location of types and etymology: Holotypic male, allotype and several paratypes in the collection of Dr. C. J. Drake, Ames, Iowa, to whom the species is dedicated; paratypes in the California Academy of Sciences, San Francisco; and in the collection of the author, Reno, Nevada.

Comparative data: *Ambrysus drakei* is a member of the *signoreti* group of the genus, and while it is an easily separable species, presents the rather interesting appearance of being intermediate between two of the rather subtle and un-named, but broadly recognizable, sections of the genus. The *signoreti* group *per se* is one in which broadness of form, including emboliar inflation, prominent maculation and quite often pronounced connexival spination, is the rule; whereas the closely related section typified by *A. mexicanus*, is somewhat slimmer, more uniformly colored and relatively or entirely spineless along the connexival margins. In general ovality, noticeable color contrast and lateral connexival spination, *A. drakei* is undeniably a typical part and parcel of the *signoreti* group; in its pronounced *A. mexicanus* type of female subgenital plate outline, it is rather aberrant and closely linked to this latter group. Fortunately, at least with present material, the species is not as confusing as the above comparison may sound, and it readily segregates from its relatives by the insertion of the following auxiliary couplet in the published key to Mexican Ambrysi—

- 27 (26). Lateral apical angles of female subgenital plate prominent, sharp, even with median, low-rounded angles or sinuosities; median angles set close together, their width across tips 40% or less of total width between lateral apical angles; male genital process either narrowing conspicuously and pointedly toward tip, or weakly goosehead-shaped. . . 27A
 — Lateral apical angles of female subgenital plate weak, although even with median, low-rounded angles or sinuosities, which latter are hardly more than flattened curves along mid-line of tip; median angles wide, their width across tips more than 50% of total width between lateral apical angles; male genital process not distinctive, weakly-to-moderately curved and not shaped as above.
 *signoreti-portheo*
 27A (27). Connexival angles non-spinose; smaller species, 8.5–9.5 mm. long; lateral apical angles of subgenital plate long, comparatively narrow, sharp and spinosely produced, the concavity between them and the median angles deep; male genital process progressively narrowing to tip, inner terminal corner enormously produced into a straight-edged

long process, somewhat like a greatly exaggerated, thin foot.....*fuscus*
 — Connexival angles spinose; larger species, 12–13 mm. long; lateral apical angles of subgenital plate shorter, broader, although with rather sharp tips, the concavity between them and the median angles rather shallow; male genital process not as above, but much like *guttatipennis*, i.e., somewhat goosehead-shaped.....*drakei*

For those specimens of *A. drakei* which show a slight asymmetry of the left side of the female subgenital plate such as occurs conspicuously in *A. mexicanus*, the spinosity of the connexival angles, size and increased inflation of the embolia (width more than 35% of length) will readily separate them from *A. mexicanus* (= emboliar width less than 35% of length).

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Trichobius (Streblidae) in West Virginia (Dipt.)

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On March 23 and 24, 1957, I found Streblid flies of the genus *Trichobius* on the long-eared bat (*Corynorhinus rafinesquii rafinesquii*) in Pendleton County, West Virginia. There is some disagreement as to the taxonomic standing of this parasite. It is considered as *Trichobius major*, variety *quadrisetosus*, by Kessel (1925), as *Trichobius quadrisetosus* by Curran (1935), and as *Trichobius corynorhini* by Jobling (1938), who considers this and Kessel's variety, *quadrisetosus*, as synonyms. In the key by Kessel, the only difference between *corynorhini* and *major* is the dark line marking the transverse suture in *major*. I am inclined to agree with Jobling, and would designate the West Virginia specimens as *T. corynorhini*, possibly as subspecies *quadrisetosus*.

In the two caves of West Virginia in which I made my collections, Sinnit and Minor Rexrode, I found this fly to be very